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COUPON COUPON COUPON

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Strike negotiations fall apart

By Will Holbert
Of the Emerald

Negotiations between the Eugene School District and striking teachers fell apart Wednesday morning after 18 hours of bargaining.

Despite the stalled negotiations, schools will reopen next Wednesday with 290 replacement teachers, according to Jerome Colonoa, the district's director of secondary education. With the exception of the primary schools, all district schools will open on a part-time schedule Wednesday, Colonoa said.

"It's certainly not the program we have with our regular teachers," Colonoa said. Replacement teachers will start work on Monday and have two in-service days to prepare for Wednesday. Priority has been given to reopening the high schools because of graduation requirements, according to Margaret Nichols, superintendent of schools.

During the second negotiating session the district moved on the salary issue, agreeing to add 4 percent to their proposed two-year salary increase plan. However, the Eugene Education Association regarded this increase as too small, according to Shari Thomas, a public relations spokeswoman for the EEA who attended the negotiations. The other issue revolves around insurance benefits.

The district wishes to place a "cap" on the

amount of money it spends each month on insurance for individual teachers. The district offer is currently \$234 per month per teacher. The EEA doesn't like the idea of having a cap at all, but if one is to be accepted the \$234 figure is too low, Thomas said.

"I think right now they've been putting on a show, trying to convince the public that they're bargaining," Thomas said. Thomas accused the district of completely ignoring some issues.

One of the eight issues Thomas claims the district is ignoring involves pay raises for teachers who have reached the point where they can no longer advance. The district gives these teachers raises every three years, and the EEA wants this changed to every other year.

Meanwhile, both sides are expressing their eagerness to return to negotiating, while blaming each other for causing the stalemate.

"We really want to proceed... the move is up to them," said Karen Hemmingsen, vice chairwoman of the school board. Thomas said the strike will drag on "until they give us some concrete proposals." "We're up to getting back together as soon as possible" said Thomas.

According to Hemmingsen, no new talks are scheduled.



"Report from Africa"

Peace Corps Volunteer Margaret Pettibone of Seattle, a health and nutrition specialist serving in the West African nation of The Gambia, recently wrote this account of her work in that developing country.

"Bakendik is a Gambian farming village located on the North bank of the Gambia River, not far from the Senegalese border. There are 1,000 people living here speaking diverse languages of Mandinka, Wolof, Fula, Jola and Serrehule. Two chiefs preside over the village, one a Mandinka, one a Wolof. Both served in the British Army during WWII. The main activity is farming — rice and vegetables by the women and couscous by the men.

One villager, Mustapha Jammen, has been propagating Mango trees in his back yard in tin cans for 5 years or more. He was encouraged to do this when he heard radio reports out of Senegal talking of the advance of the desert. (There is, of course, no electricity here, so he listens when he has batteries.) When the trees are about 18 inches high he transplants them to a field and carries water to them from a well which is about one quarter mile distant. He protects his trees with bamboo fences and bits of corrugated tin.

INFORMATION TABLE:

Tues., - Wed., Apr. 28-29
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
EMU Lobby

FILM PRESENTATION:

Tues., Apr. 28
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
EMU Room 108
Film: "The Toughest Job You'll Ever Love"

SCHEDULED INTERVIEWS:

May 12-13
9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Hendricks Hall

Career Planning & Placement Center. Sign up in advance, bring your completed application to the interview.

For more information call 686-3235

There is no herd law here so goats, sheep, and the big horned African cattle wander at will. Anything green attracts them. The survival rate for Mustapha's trees is very low. After five years he has 7 trees.

As a Peace Corps Volunteer I was posted to this village to investigate the causes of malnutrition. At the same time, I became aware every day that the land was blowing — here they call it the Harmattan winds. Sand is everywhere.

In the hopes of increasing food production, changing land use and perhaps altering the work load of women, the villagers and I began talking of tree planting. Together with Mustapha, the Primary School Headmaster, and a prominent woman we obtained U.S. A I D funds to provide adequate fencing and an accessible water supply for a fruit farm. School children are each assigned a tree to care for and can be seen watering their trees morning and night. Villagers who were skeptical of Mustapha's vision are now asking how to start their own. It is a beginning."

The toughest job you'll ever love

SLIDE PRESENTATIONS:

Tues., Apr. 28
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
EMU, Forum Room
"Peace Corps At Work in The Philippines"
Wed., Apr. 29
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
EMU, Maple Room
"Peace Corps Perspective On Sierra Leone"

Et al.

MEETINGS

"The lunch club," a group of adult learners, will meet today for lunch in the EMU cafeteria from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. All interested are welcome to attend.

Phi Eta Sigma Freshman Honor Society will meet tonight at 7 in EMU Room 108 to help organize upcoming initiation.

Circle K Service Club meets tonight at 6 in Cedar Room C in the EMU. New members are welcome.

The Older Women's League is sponsoring a brown bag lunch today at noon in Century Room D of the EMU. Anyone interested in the concerns of older women is welcome to attend.

LECTURES

The Society of Professional Journalists is sponsoring a talk on magazine career opportunities by LIFE Magazine managing editor Dick Stolley today at 3:30 p.m. in Room 307 Allen.

Student Activities Resource Office is sponsoring a seminar, "Careering in America" as part of its Beyond College series today at 4 p.m. in EMU Walnut Room. Featured will be

representative from Esquire Video, Career Strategies II, Career Planning and Placement Service, Made in Oregon, Jean Tate Realty, First Interstate Bank, and Lane County Commissioner John Ball.

International Potter John Takehara will present a lecture and slide show tonight at 7:30 in Room 107 Lawrence.

MISCELLANEOUS

Applications for Phi Eta Sigma and Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Societies are due Friday in 364 Oregon Hall

Eugene Arts & Letters Awards selection committee is accepting nominations at the Eugene Arts Foundation office in the Hult Centre until May 22. The awards honor people and organizations for contributions in arts and letters adding to the community's cultural life.

Deadline for submitting Et als to the Emerald front desk, 300 EMU, is noon the day before publication. Et als are run only once. Events with a donation or admission charge will not be considered. Events occurring nearest the publication date and campus events will be given priority.

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